

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. DIVA/248DIV1

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing an interactive program guide, the method comprising:

providing a plurality of transport streams;

each transport stream in said plurality comprises at least one elementary stream representing a respective interactive program guide (IPG) page, wherein each IPG page has associated with it a respective guide portion and a common video portion; wherein,

elementary streams associated with related IPG pages are grouped within a common transport stream

~~providing a group of interactive guide pages within each said transport stream, where the group of interactive guide pages comprise related pages.~~

2. (Original) A method for providing an interactive program guide, the method comprising:

forming a first transport stream including video packets with a first set of packet identifiers; and

forming a second transport stream including video packets with a second set of packet identifiers,

where the first set of packet identifiers and the second set of packet identifiers include a common packet identifier.

3. (Canceled) A method for providing an interactive program guide, the method comprising:

providing an interactive guide page which may be navigated by a viewer;

providing a threshold within the interactive guide page; and

if the threshold is crossed during navigation of the page by the viewer,

then requesting a next interactive guide page.

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4. (Newly Added) The method of claim 1, wherein:
each of said IPG pages has associated with it a first plurality of slices representing said common video portion and a second plurality of slices representing said respective guide portion;
said method further comprising:
encoding only once said slices associated with said common video portion of said IPG pages;
encoding each respective plurality of slices associated with said respective guide portions of said IPG pages; and
associating, for each IPG page, said encoded common video portion slices and respective encoded guide portion slices.

5. (Newly Added) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
providing for each of a predetermined number of IPG pages in a sequence of IPG pages one video frame for time incremented intra-coding and remaining video frames for time-incremented predictive coding.

6. (Newly Added) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
dividing each IPG page representative video frame to be provided into slices.

7. (Newly Added) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
separately encoding slices associated with said common video portion of said IPG page and slices associated with said respective guide portions of said IPG pages.

(Newly Added) The method of claim 7, wherein each of said encoded guide portions of said IPG pages is adapted to be combined with said encoded common video portion of said IPG pages to form thereby a respective sequence of image frames.